

INITIAL POLREP

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Region 4

Date: August 18, 2003
Subject: U-Pull-It Oil Spill
From: Robert N. Rosen, Telephone Duty OSC

To: S. Hitchcock, EPA Region 4
D. Rigger, EPA Region 4
T. Moore, EPA Region 4
D. Thornton, EPA-HQ
B. Franco, EPA Region 4 OSC
J. Negron, EPA Region 4 OSC

I. Background

Site ID#: Z4FP
FPN#: E03418
Incident Report#: 654080 and 654051
Project Ceiling: \$50,000
Lead Agency: EPA Region 4 - ERRB
NPL: Not on NPL
Funding: OPA
Lead OSC: Ben Franco

II. Situation

Date of Notification: 08-15-03
Date Action Started: 08-15-03
Date Action Ended: 08-18-03
Pollutant: waste oil
Quantity Discharged: est. 200 gallons
Substantial Threat: medium
Surface Water: unnamed tributary to South River Creek
Source Identification: auto salvage yard(s)

III. Actions Taken

On August 15, the City of Atlanta's Hazmat Team responded to a report of what appeared to be lube oil flowing in a small creek through Perkinson Park in S.W. Atlanta. They reported this to the NRC and the Region 4 phone duty OSC dispatched an OSC. Upon arriving at the scene, the OSC attempted to get the one of the probable RPs to perform the cleanup but the RP's efforts were neither prompt nor appropriate. The OSC

then requested support from Kemron Environmental Services, an EPA ERRS contractor. From that point on, the response was driven to success by effective leadership and a competent response entity. Underflow dams were constructed and recovery of waste oil initiated. By late Sunday, nearly all visible signs of oil had been removed. EPA and ERRS continue to monitor the creek for sheening.

In addition to responding to the discharge, OSCs and a city engineer tried to trace the discharge upstream in an attempt to corroborate the source. Several potential commercial/industrial sites could be culprits but the most likely sources are the U-Pull-It salvage yard and another business called, Perkins Auto Recycling on Higgins Street. It appears likely that the OSC will issue a Letter of Federal Interest/Assumption to Perkins Auto.

IV. Future Actions

EPA will monitor the creek for indications of oil over the next 2-4 days.

V. Cost To Date

Unknown at this time.

POLREP # 2 AND FINAL

Date: October 17, 2003

From: Benjamin Franco, On-Scene Coordinator
USEPA Region IV

To: Regional Response Center
EPA HQ Regional Coordinator
Site File
Branch File
Office of Public Affairs
State
EPA Contracting Officer
EPA Cost Recovery Section
ERRB Community Relations Coordinator
EAD Office of Legal Support

I. GENERAL SITE INFORMATION

Site Name: U-Pull-It Oil Spill
Aliases: Perkins Auto Recycle
Street address: 1244 Higgins St.
City, county, state, zip code: Atlanta, GA, 30310
Latitude and longitude: N33° 43' 16", W84° 25' 17"
Site Number: Z4FP
FPN#: E03418

Response Authority: OPA
NPL Status: non-NPL
Incident Category: Emergency
State Notification: Atlanta Fire Department
Start Date: 15AUG03
Completion Date: 17SEP03

II. BACKGROUND INFORMATION

- A. **Type of facility or site:** Auto Part/Recycling Business
- B. **Site Description:** The Site is a 3 acre site that is leased by three auto recycling businesses. Perkins Recycling is one of the businesses and suspected of causing the spill. Perkins recycling remove engines from junk cars. During the removal process, the engine's oil is collected and transferred into a 55 gallon drum or into a larger 1,000 gallon tank. The engine pulling operation takes place near a stormwater drain. There is visible oil stains on the property and around the drain.

III. RESPONSE INFORMATION

A. **Actions Taken:**
Background

On August 15, 2003, the Atlanta Fire Department reported to the NRC an oil spill in a creek in Perkerson Park, Atlanta, Georgia. Perkerson Park is a recreational park that contains tennis courts, pavillions and picnic areas, and t is used by the local community for special events. GAEPD and EPA responded to the spill and found a spill of approximately 200 gallons of oil. The oil substance was coming from a stormwater drain pipe that dumped into an unnamed creek that cut through the park. The creek feeds into the South River a couple of miles further. Due to the amount of the spill and the lack of a clear cut potential responsible party at the moment it was discovered, EPA took over the response responsibilities. EPA used Kemron as the ERRS contractor.

Response Actions

15AUG03

The Atlanta Fire Department and the City of Atlanta Water works built underflow dams at two locations in the park. These dams served as collection points.

- Kemron used a vac truck to recover the oil from these two collection points, and then transferred it into a frac tank. Absorbent booms were place at the outfalls in order to absorb any residue that had escaped from the underflow dams.

- Kemron flushed the creek banks using several trash pumps.

03SEP03

- Kemron disposed of absorbent pads, booms and oil/waste water mix.

17SEP03

- Kemron cleaned out and removed the frac tank from the site. Site activity ended.

Estimated amount of oil recovered at around 300 gallons. Total amount of oil water mix recovered was around 9,000 gallons.

Potential Responsible Party

During the Atlanta Fire Department's (AFD) initial response, they tracked the source to an auto recycling center called Perkins Auto Recycle located at 1244 Higgins St., Atlanta, GA. This business is operated and owned by Mr. Claude Perkins. The AFD noticed a stormwater drain that had a black substance pooled around it. This drain was near where Mr. Perkins conducted his operations. EPA conducted a die test from this location and determined that the drain impacted the creek located in Perkerson Park. On 18AUG03, EPA gave an assumption letter to Claude Perkins.

- B. **Use of Innovative Technologies or Authorities:** None
- C. **Community Involvement:** The OSC spoke with Ms. Edwards of the Perkerson Park Restoration Committee, and explained what was happening. She was very happy that we were there.
- D. **Unusual Circumstances:** None
- E. **Future Considerations:** None
- F. **Post Removal Site Control:**None

IV. CONTRACTOR INFORMATION AND ESTIMATED COSTS

A. Contractor Information

| CONTRACTOR | DO NUMBER | POP START | POP END | DO AMOUNT |
|-----------------|-----------|-----------|---------|-----------|
| Kemron | 0021 | 15AUG03 | | \$45,000 |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| | | | | |
| TOTAL: \$45,000 | | | | |

B. Estimated Costs

Extramural:

ERCS/ERRS: \$35,000

Total Estimated Extramural Costs: \$35,000

Intramural:

EPA Direct Costs: \$5,000
EPA Indirect Costs

TOTAL SITE COSTS: \$40,000

These figures should not be used to support or dispute any legal action regarding this removal.

V. DISPOSITION OF WASTES

| Waste Stream Number | Waste Code | Description | Approximate Volume/Quantity | Wastestream Handling Method | Disposal Location |
|---------------------|------------|--------------------------------|------------------------------|--------------------------------------|---|
| 1 | | Petroleum Contact Water | 9000 gallons | Separation of oil from water. | Environmental Remedies 460 Sawtell Ave., Atlanta, GA |
| 2 | | Oil Contaminated Debris | (16) 55-gallons drums | Landfill | Environmental Remedies 460 Sawtell Ave., Atlanta, GA |

VI. ROSTER OF AGENCIES/ORGANIZATIONS ASSISTING IN REMOVAL

| Org./Agency, Address | Primary Contact | Phone Number | Role/Activity |
|---|---------------------|---------------------|------------------------|
| USEPA R4 | Jose Negrón | 404-562-8754 | R2 |
| GAEPD | Scott Coburn | 404-382-1813 | Responder |
| City of Atlanta Sewer Operations | Tony Coleman | 404-624-0753 | Area Supervisor |

VII. LESSONS LEARNED: None